

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Vessel (1) for the metallurgical treatment of pig iron, steel melts, and the like, comprising especially a converter vessel (1a), which is supported on a trunnion ring (3) spaced some distance (2) from the vessel, which trunnion ring (3) can be tilted by ~~means of~~ trunnions in rocker bearings on both sides, wherein claws (6) distributed along the circumference of the vessel wall (1b) rest on an ~~the~~ upper flange (3a) of the trunnion ring (3), and wherein a support (4) is designed to be releasably mounted on the upper flange (3a) of the trunnion ring (3) by ~~means of~~ additional mounting fixtures, wherein the support (4) on the upper flange (3a) of the trunnion ring (3) consists of opposing vessel brackets (7) and trunnion ring brackets (8), which can be tensioned together in a closing direction (10) by means of a hinged closure (9) until a secure closed position (11) is achieved and which can be easily released in the opposite operating direction (12).

2. (Previously presented) Vessel in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the hinged closure (9) consists of a clamp (13), which embraces the vessel bracket (7) and is rotatably supported on an operating lever (14), such that the upper end (14a) of the operating lever (14) is rotatably supported on the trunnion ring bracket (8).

3. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 2 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the clamp (13) embraces the vessel bracket (7) in the closing direction (10) and rests against the outer peripheral surface (3c) of the trunnion ring (3) in the closed position (11) and that the operating lever (14) is locked with lock bolts (15) mounted on the clamp ~~clamps~~ (13) on both sides.

4. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 2 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein during an opening movement of the operating lever (14) from the peripheral surface (3c) of the trunnion ring (3) towards the outside, the clamp (13) can be rotated over the vessel bracket (7) until an open position (16) is reached.

5. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 1, wherein, in a ~~the~~ side profile (7a), the vessel bracket (7) forms a lower recess (7b), in which the trunnion ring bracket (8) finds space with clearance.

6. (Previously presented) Vessel in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the vessel bracket (7) consists of two bracket plates (17) arranged laterally with fixed spacing (7c).

7. (Previously presented) Vessel in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the vessel bracket (7) consists of a single, correspondingly thickly dimensioned bracket plate (18).

8. (Previously presented) Vessel in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the trunnion ring bracket (8) consists of a single, correspondingly dimensioned bracket plate (19).

9. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 2 [[1]], wherein the clamp (13) consists of two spaced, parallel clamping cover plates (13a; 13a), which are connected at their ends (13b) by a transverse spacer element (20), or are rotatably connected with spaced trunnion ring bracket plates (8a), or ~~such that~~ in a middle, thick trunnion ring bracket (8), the spacer element (20) holds lever cover plates (21) for the operating lever (14) and forms its pivot bearing (22).

10. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 2 [[1]], wherein the operating lever (14) consists of two spaced,

parallel lever cover plates (21), which are connected by transverse spacer elements (20) and form a ~~the~~ pivot bearing (22).

11. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 10 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein a clamping element (23) consists of a tension lever arm (24), which runs between the spaced, parallel vessel brackets (7) and between spaced trunnion ring bracket plates (8a), is connected to the pivot bearing (22) connecting the two lever cover plates (21), runs between two trunnion ring bracket plates (8a), and has a hammerhead (25) that rests on the bracket plates.

12. (Currently Amended) Vessel in accordance with Claim 10 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the tension lever arm (24) runs between two trunnion ring bracket plates (8a) and forms an oval, closed clamp (26) that embraces the vessel bracket (7).